

# UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION IX

75 Hawthorne Street San Francisco, CA 94105

John Shewmaker, President Shiley Incorporated for Shiley Incorporated 235 E. 42nd St. New York, NY 10017-5755

> RE: <u>General Notice Letter</u> Omega Superfund Site

Dear John Shewmaker:

The purpose of this letter is to provide you notice of your potential liability under the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation Liability Act (CERCLA), as amended, at the Omega Chemical Superfund Site (the "Site"). In addition, the United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") is inviting you to attend an informational meeting regarding the Site which will occur on September 17, 2002, at the Sheraton Gateway Hotel near the Los Angeles Airport. At that time, you will also have the opportunity to meet the established working group – the Omega Chemical Site PRP Organized Group ("OPOG").

The Site is a former refrigerant/solvent recycling operation in Whittier, California. During a Site Assessment in 1995, EPA observed in excess of 3,000 drums at the Site in various stages of deterioration. Data gathered in 1988 and 1995 also indicated the presence of hazardous substances including but not limited to methylene chloride, tetrachloroethylene, trichloroethylene, and Freon 11 and 113, in the subsurface soils and groundwater at the Site. On May 3, 1995, EPA issued an Action Memorandum authorizing actions necessary to abate imminent and substantial endangerments at the Site, including securing the site, conducting sampling, removing grossly contaminated equipment, structures, and debris, removing containerized wastes and disposing, stabilizing or treating grossly contaminated soils.

On May 9, 1995 and August 31, 1995, EPA issued Unilateral Administrative Orders ("UAO") to approximately 170 major generator potentially responsible parties (PRPs), all of whom sent greater than 10 tons of hazardous materials to the Site, to perform removal activities at the Site. These major contributing parties thereafter formed a workgroup called the Omega Chemical Site PRP Organized Group or "OPOG" and completed removal activities as required. In September 1998, EPA proposed the Site for listing on the National Priorities List ("NPL"). The Site was placed on the NPL on January

Currently, the 109 members within OPOG are performing work under a Partial Consent Decree which was entered by the District Court on February 23, 2001. Under this agreement, the Settling Defendants agreed to pay a portion of past costs and perform the following work at the Site:

- 1) implementation of a Remedial Investigation / Feasibility Study ("RI/FS") for contamination in the vadose zone within the "Phase 1A area" of the Site;
- 2) performance of an Engineering Evaluation and Cost Analysis ("EE/CA") addressing groundwater contamination in the Phase 1A area;
- 3) implementation of the response action selected in EPA's Action Memorandum at the conclusion of the EE/CA:
- 4) performance of a risk assessment within the Phase 1A area; and
- 5) installation of up to three groundwater monitoring wells at locations downgradient of the Phase 1A area and upgradient of the City of Santa Fe Springs water supply well.

In addition, EPA has been conducting a Fund-lead groundwater RI downgradient of the "Phase 1A" area. In the future, EPA anticipates combining the Fund-lead groundwater RI and the PRP-lead groundwater EE/CA into one PRP-lead FS. At the conclusion of the FS, a Sitewide remedy would be proposed and selected.

Based upon generator manifest information, EPA is notifying you that you are a potentially responsible party at the Omega Site. EPA has reviewed the State of California's manifest database information and determined that you contributed more than 10 tons of waste to the Site and thus fall into the major contributors' group. Although you were not identified during earlier reviews of the generator manifests for Omega, your potential liability at the Site is equivalent to those parties which received notice in 1995 and have been performing work to date, and you may be liable for past and future costs incurred to clean up the Site. A summary of the manifest information attributed to you is provided as Attachment A. Copies of the original manifests may be viewed at the offices of:

Department of Toxic Substances Control 8800 Cal Center Drive Sacramento, CA 95826-3200 (916) 255-0883 Attention: Adrienne Sanders, DTSC

If, upon your review of this information, you conclude that the volume attributed to you is incorrect, please notify the EPA in writing, providing documents substantiating that claim by close of business December 18, 2002. This correspondence should be addressed to:

Elizabeth Domagalski
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Superfund Division

75 Hawthorne Street, SFD-7 San Francisco, CA 94105

Under CERCLA Section 107(a)(3), any person who arranged for the disposal of hazardous substances at a facility from which there is a release, or threatened release of a hazardous substance, shall be liable for costs incurred by EPA to respond to such releases. 42 U.S.C.A. § 9607(a)(3). Furthermore, EPA may unilaterally issue such orders as may be necessary to protect public health and welfare and the environment under CERCLA Section 106(a), including, but not limited to, orders to perform response actions at Site. 42 U.S.C.A § 9606(a). EPA is not issuing you an Order at this time, but is advising you of your potential liability at this site. EPA encourages you to initiate dialog with OPOG concerning joining the established workgroup. The Agency is willing to amend the existing Partial Consent Decree to include any parties which join the established group.

## September 2002 Meeting

On September 17, 2002, EPA will conduct an informational meeting for all newly identified major contributing parties at the Site. The meeting will occur at 1:00 p.m. at the following address:

Omega Meeting 1:00p.m.-5:00p.m. Catalina Clemente Room

Sheraton Gateway Hotel, Los Angeles Airport 6101 West Century Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90065 (310) 642-1111

EPA will make a presentation, which will be followed by an opportunity for parties to ask questions. Immediately following the question period, all newly identified parties will have an opportunity to meet with OPOG representatives to discuss joining the established workgroup. In addition to the informational meeting, EPA representatives will be available on the following day, September 18, 2002, from the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, to answer individual questions you may have concerning the Site. The location of this break out session will be in Salon Room Number 214 at the Sheraton Gateway Hotel.

If you have any technical questions regarding the Site, you may contact Nancy Riveland-Har, the Remedial Project Manager, at 415-972-3251. If you have any legal questions, you may contact Thanne Cox, the Assistant Regional Counsel, at 415-972-3908. EPA's anticipates your presence and participation at the September 2002 meeting.

Sincerely,

John Kemmerer, Chief Site Cleanup Branch

cc: Thanne Cox, EPA ORC
Nancy Riveland-Har, EPA RPM
Elizabeth Domagalski, EPA
Lois Green, EPA
Lewis Maldonado, EPA ORC
Loren Henning, EPA
Karl Fingerhood, DOJ
Adrean Sanders, DTSC

generator_name	SHILEY INC	
lc_name:	Shiley Incorporated	
lc_calc_volume:	65.0305 tons	
manifest_number	manifest_quantity_ton	
83202060	1.668 tons	
83202061	0.834 tons	
83202062	1.0425 tons	
83202063	0.9174 tons	
83202064	0.68805 tons	
83202065	0.68805 tons	
83202066	0.22935 tons	·····
83202067	0.4587 tons	
83202068	2.98155 tons	
83202069	2.06415 tons	
83202070	0.417 tons	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
83202071	0.18765 tons	
83202072	0.22935 tons	
83202073	2.0016 tons	
83202076	0.22935 tons	•
83212228	1.3761 tons	
83376171	0.6672 tons	
84341985	0.22935 tons	
84341986	1.11756 tons	
84341987	0.27105 tons	
84341988	0.417 tons	
84341989	1.9182 tons	
84345220	0.22935 tons	
84345221	1.85565 tons	
84345222	1.1676 tons	
84345223	3.06495 tons	,

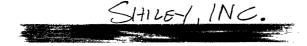
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84446912	1.06335 tons	
84446913	2.06415 tons	
84446914	0.42951 tons	
84446915	1.35525 tons	
84446916	0.22101 tons	
84446917	0.56295 tons	
84446918	0.2085 tons	
84446919	2.73969 tons	
84446920	0.8336 tons	
86534687	1.26351 tons	
86534688	1.1259 tons	
86534689	2.7522 tons	
86534690	1.7514 tons	
86534691	2.27265 tons	
86534692	1.4178 tons	
86534693	0.21684 tons	
86534694	0.2085 tons	
86534695	2.4186 tons	
86534698	2.6271 tons	
86534699	0.8757 tons	
86534700	1.251 tons	
86534701	1.9599 tons	
86534702	0.39615 tons	
86534703	1.80144 tons	

generator_name	SILICON GENERAL	
lc_name:	Symmetricom, Inc.	
lc_calc_volume:	29.9415 tons	
manifest_number	manifest_quantity_ton	
83493908	0.4587 tons	
83564183	0.4587 tons	
84341250	0.4587 tons	
84341315	0.68805 tons	
84341417	0.4587 tons	
84341508	0.4587 tons	
84341534	0.6255 tons	
84341595	0.6672 tons	
84341649	0.4587 tons	
84341872	0.6672 tons	
84341974	0.9174 tons	i Atta
84345277	0.417 tons	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
84345357	0.4587 tons	
84345401	0.417 tons	
84720042	0.43785 tons	
84720122	0.52125 tons	
86534453	0.5 tons	
86534536	0.5 tons	
86534715	0.417 tons	
86534768	0.4587 tons	
86544070	0.5 tons	
86544106	0.4587 tons	
86544158	0.475 tons	tania di Carante de Ca
86544198	0.4587 tons	
86544211	0.68805 tons	
87114022	0.4587 tons	

87114064	0.68805 tons	
87114194	0.3753 tons	
87114230	0.417 tons	
87114351	0.4587 tons	
87118545	0.4587 tons	
87118653	0.4587 tons	
87118702	0.4587 tons	
87119470	1.14675 tons	
87119516	0.417 tons	
88293557	0.81315 tons	22.22
88293712	0.68805 tons	
88614707	0.41115 tons	
88614830	0.68805 tons	
88676060	0.77145 tons	
88676902	1.14675 tons	,
88676955	1.15925 tons	
88677091	0.9174 tons	
88677442	0.68805 tons	
88681535	2.18925 tons	
88683274	0.72975 tons	
88683332	0.4587 tons	
88683499	0.9174 tons	



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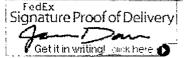
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